there is hardly any department which can be considered sensitive. However, as per directives received from vigilance Department in 1997, periodic action for rotational posts has to be taken. Accordingly, the incumbents to the post of Cashier/Stores in-charge have been changed from time to time.

Construction of new National Highways in Assam

1344. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct new National Highways., "connecting Doboka-Lanka-Lumding-Maibange-Haflong-Silchar in the State of Assam, as being declared by the Central Govemment;

(b) if so, the details of the initiative taken by Govemment in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the reaction of Govemment thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Stretch of National Highway No. 54 connecting Doboka & Silchar via Lanka, Lumding and Haflong has been entrusted to Government of Assam for its maintenance and development in May 1999. An amount of Rs. 71.50 lakh has been allocated for the maintenance of this National Highway during 1999-2000.

Restarting of work on Jatinga-Silchar sector by BRTF

1345. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the main road connecting from Jatinga-Silchar taken up by Border Road Task Force (BRTF) from the State of Assam has been suddenly stopped;

(b) if so, the details of the altemative arrangements made so far by Govemment to restart the work;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the present status of the aforesaid road?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) Consequent upon its declaration as an extension to National Highway No. 54 the work on Jatinga-Silchar road has been stopped by Border Roads Organisation. The development of National Highway-54 extension including this stretch has been entrusted to the Govemment of Assam in May 1999, and the road was physically taken over by Assam Public Works Department only in October 1999.

AUocation of Funds for NHs in Rajasthan

†1346. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the State-wise number and length of the National Highways in the country; and

(b) the total amount Ukely to be spent on the National highway from Bikaner to Mahu (Indore) in Rajasthan during 1999-2000 and the funds sanctioned for the National Highway from Bikaner to Ajmer and by when this work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) A list of Statewise National Highways is annexed as Statement, (See below).

(b) The total amount likely to be spent on National Highway from Bikaner to Mahu (Indore) in Rajasthan portion during 1999-2000 is Rs. 6.68 crores for maintenance and repairs which includes Rs. 2.11 crores for the National Highway from Bikaner to Ajmer. The maintenance and repair work are planned to be completed by March, 2000.

†'Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.